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MILWAUKEE COUNTY EMS PRACTICAL SKILL ENDOTRACHEAL EXTUBATION

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Page 1 of 1

Purpose:		Indications:	
To safely remove an indwelling endotracheal tube (oral or nasal) from the trachea		Patient's gag reflex returns and is ventilating on own	
Advantages:	Disadvantages:	Complications:	Contraindications:
Removes focus of discomfort and agitation from an alert patient who has an intact gag reflex and is ventilating on his/her own	Loss of positive airway control	Laryngospasm Aspiration	Any patient unable to adequately ventilate or protect his/her own airway

Evaluate the patient's level of consciousness and ability to follow commands prior to extubation

Explain the procedure to the patient

Ventilate the patient for approximately 8 breaths

Suction the mouth and oropharynx, using a soft tip suction catheter to remove all secretions that may be above the cuff of the endotracheal tube

Instruct the patient to take a deep breath

Attach the syringe, deflate the cuff and have the patient cough as the tube is gently removed from the airway

Instruct the patient to cough and to take deep breaths

Supplement the patient with high flow oxygen via non-rebreather mask for the duration of prehospital care

Monitor the patient carefully for respiratory distress; be prepared to re-intubate if necessary

NOTE:

 If considering Extubation due to patient agitation, contact medical control for possible sedation order.